

## When You Deserve Better

Week of July 28, 2013

Into the Fire • Message 1

## INTRO ON TRIALS: MORMON PAPERBOY, CURSED ON THE BEACH, BEING BETTER THAN MY PEERS

*Dear friends, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that has come on you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you...*

1 Peter 4:12

THOSE WHO FOLLOW GOD WILL FIND THEMSELVES FACING THE FIRE... HOW WILL YOU HANDLE IT?  
CHAR., OBED., AND FAITH'NESS ARE BLESSED BY GOD NO MATTER THE CULTURE -> JOSEPHFaithfulness in the **FIRE** always brings **BLESSING**.

THE SERIES • ONE MORE THING: OUR TEMPTATION IS TO ESCAPE THE FIRE...

*...But rejoice inasmuch as you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed.*

1 Peter 4:13

THOSE WHO FOLLOW GOD, OFTEN CHOOSE TO GO INTO THE FIRE.

## INTO THE FIRE: When you deserve better.

## Daniel 1 (p. 613)

## 1-2: The Setup

VERSE 1-2 • KINGS 24 / JOSIAH -> JEHOAHAZ (3 MOS.) -> JEHOIAKIM (BY NEGO) -> 605 BC  
3-6 • THE REAL STORY BEGINS

3-7: King Nebuchadnezzar took the **BEST** of the **BEST**.

YOUNG, MALE, PERFECT, HANDSOME, HIGH SAT, GPA, IQ • DO YOU FIT THE PROFILE?

ILL: I WAS RAISED TO HAVE VERY HIGH SELF-CONFIDENCE / BBALL, VBALL, VALEDICT, ENTITLED  
WHEN PEOPLE TELL ME I'M GREAT, I TEND TO BELIEVE THEM • WHAT ABOUT YOU?

8-14: Four men choose the **FIRE** over their entitlement.

NOW, UNDERSTAND THEIR ENTITLEMENT • ILL: I REALLY LOVE GOOD FOOD, FRANCE, ENGLAND  
THIS IS NOT A NEW DIET TREND... ONLY ABOUT HONORING GOD.

DECISION: COMFORT AND ENTITLEMENT OR THE FIRE OF HUMBLE FAITHFULNESS

## 15-21: God gets involved.

God brings **BLESSINGS** to the faithful **IN** the **FIRE**.

## Take it Home

YOU MIGHT NOT STRUGGLE WITH PRIDE LIKE I, BUT YOU HAVE HAD MOMENTS WHEN YOU THOUGHT  
YOU DESERVED BETTER... THE CHOICE IS COMING FOR COMFORT OR HUMBLE FAITHFULNESS

Will you embrace your entitlements or choose humble faithfulness?

YOUR FATHER SEES, AND YOUR FATHER BLESSES.

*For the eyes of the LORD range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts  
are fully committed to him.*

2 Chronicles 16:9a

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